

# LUSTON GROUP PARISH COUNCIL

## MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF LUSTON GROUP PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT 7.30PM ON MONDAY 6 NOVEMBER 2023 AT CAWLEY HALL

**Present:** I Stevens (Chairman), C Pearson (Vice Chairman), R Bennett Jones, A Brandish, E Coates, P Edwards, A Capell and W Talbot Ponsonby.

**In attendance:** Ward Cllr. D Hurcomb and R Hewitt (Clerk). No members of the public were present.

### 1. Receive apologies for absence – K Wood and J Oatley.

### 2. Declarations of Interest

2.1 Disclosable Pecuniary. The Chairman declared a disclosable pecuniary interest in measures to address flooding by the culvert under the B4361 at Luston (item #4).

2.2 Non-disclosable Pecuniary. None.

2.3 Non-Pecuniary. None.

2.4 Written requests for dispensation. The Vice Chairman's written request for dispensation in respect of 'Flooding Matters' was granted on grounds of community interest (b. knowledge of flooding which considered to be in the interests of persons living in the authority's area). The dispensation was agreed for the period up to the next election of the parish council in May 2027.

### 3. Approval of meeting minutes from 2 October 2023

**DECISION:** The minutes of the meeting were agreed and signed.

### 4. Flooding matters

[The Chairman left the meeting. The Vice Chairman chaired the meeting.]

4.1 Feedback from the Wye and Usk Foundation concerning the request to meet to discuss natural flood management projects was noted. **DECISION:** To propose a virtual meeting to see how best to proceed.

4.2 Storm Babet and impact on sewerage infrastructure at Luston: Problems with wastewater coming from the manhole cover on the B4361 by the culvert will be reported to Welsh Water and an update requested on progress to remove gross infiltration of surface water into the foul network.

[The Chairman re-joined the meeting and resumed the chairing of the meeting. Cllr. Coates joined the meeting.]

### 5. Ward Councillor D Hurcomb's Brief Report (for information only)

The meeting noted Ward Cllr. D Hurcomb's written report. An update was provided on the local plan review and new standards which has meant that all public footpath bridge replacements have been put on hold.

### 6. Clerk's Report and reports on meetings attended by parish councillors

The status of the two defibrillators has been confirmed with the Circuit. The survey of Eyton Common by Herefordshire Wildlife Trust is planned for summer 2024. The parish council expressed a wish for it to be done in June 2024 if possible.

Topping of the Eyton commons has been requested but will require drier conditions. Scraping of kerbs and drain clearing is scheduled to start from late November 2023. The highway authority highlighted the effect of the concrete pour on deployments when working on the bridge on Eye Lane. The Elections Office has replied to confirm candidates' responsibility to submit an expenses return even if Nil. Declarations of Interest forms completed by members are on the parish council website.

## **7. Matters raised by local residents**

Cllr. Brandish reported on an encounter with speed enforcement at Orleton. Enforcement has since been undertaken at Luston and the road safety officer reportedly said it should be a 'regular' deployment. Data from the SID deployment in August and early September 2023 was noted. Cllr. Coates asked that the two culverts under the Kingsland Road from Eyton are cleared as they seemed to be blocked during recent heavy rain.

## **8. Planning**

**8.1** 8.1 232610 and 232612 The Steppes, Luston, HR6 0EA. Proposed solar PV on south facing roof of annexe. **COMMENT:** The proposals in the planning application and application for listed building consent are supported.

**8.2** 232996 The Steppes, Luston, HR6 0EA. Pollard ash tree (labelled A) to just above hedge height to reduce risk of failure into garden/neighbouring field. **COMMENT:** No comment made. The application number was not present on the planning pages of Herefordshire Council's website.

**8.3** Update on planning decisions: Herefordshire Council have granted planning permission for 230979 Folly Field and 232361 Workshops at Mile End. Prior approval has been granted for 232777 Land at Eyton Hall.

## **9. Highways and environmental matters**

**9.1** Highways – Matters to bring to the attention of Balfour Beatty. **DECISION:** To report poor surface on roads/ junctions at Luston, including Lilac Grove, The Willows and Townsend Park. Lining on junctions needs to be renewed following requested resurfacing works. Highway matters raised under #7 will be reported to the highway authority.

**9.2** Lengthsman and P3 footpaths. There were no matters raised. A report received from the footpath officer earlier in the evening will be emailed to members by the Clerk.

## **10. Finance**

### **10.1** Payments:

DC Gardening Services, lengthsman/ footpaths – £102.00  
Clerk, wages, October 2023

**DECISION:** Payments were agreed for electronic payment.

### **10.2** Review direct payments:

Gigaclear, broadband service, November 2023 – £36.00

**DECISION:** Payment was noted.

## **11. Standing Orders of the parish council**

Updated NALC model standing orders, as reviewed/ proposed by the management working group, were considered. **DECISION:** The updated standing orders were adopted without amendment.

**12. Review HALC schedule of courses**

The training schedule was considered. **DECISION:** No action required.

**13. Matters for consideration at the next meeting (no discussion)**

Update on missing Tunnel Lane road name sign and condition of Eye Lane.

**14. Date of Next Full Council Meeting**

**DECISION:** The next meeting will be at 7.30pm on Monday 4 December 2023.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8.50pm.

Signed as a true record\_\_\_\_\_

Date\_\_\_\_\_